

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## State Health Department Announces Demobilization of Flood-Related Medical Shelters

BISMARCK, N.D. – The medical shelters positioned at three sites in North Dakota are being demobilized, according to Tim Wiedrich, section chief of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Section with the North Dakota Department of Health.

"The medical shelters have been organized and the infrastructure and resources are in place to deploy them again should they be needed anywhere in the state," Wiedrich said.

The North Dakota Department of Health coordinated the deployment of medical shelters to receive and care for people with special medical needs evacuated from Fargo. As part of the state's comprehensive response to flooding, the medical shelters were established at Central Cass School in Casselton, Jamestown College in Jamestown, and the University of Mary in Bismarck.

The sites were staffed by federal medical personnel, as well as volunteer medical personnel from North Dakota.

All three sites will be demobilized by Thursday, April 2, 2009.

- One medical shelter package from the state medical cache will be positioned with Fargo/Cass Public Health, and one will be positioned with Grand Forks Public Health in case flooding worsens and they need to be reactivated.
- The federal medical shelter package from the University of Mary will be stored with the North Dakota Department of Health through the end of May for use if needed.
- The federal medical shelter package from Jamestown College will be packed for removal from North Dakota.

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